

Message Text

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16

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SCCT-02 NEA-14 SY-04

USSS-00 AID-20 TRSE-00 SCA-01 OMB-01 FBIE-00 A-01

OPR-02 NIC-01 DRC-01 /142 W
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O 290317Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1586

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE 0286

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINT

SUBJECT: HUTCHISON KIDNAPPING: STATUS OF HOSTAGES

1. FROM AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION THIS MORNING WITH PAO HUTCHISON, FROM HER TELEPHONE REMARKS TO NEWSMEN AND FROM PRESS AND RADIO INFORMATION FILTERING OUT OF VENEZUELAN CONSULATE, WE GATHER THAT DESPITE EBB AND FLOW OF TENSION AS CAPTORS' DEADLINES COME AND GO, ALL HOSTAGES ARE STILL SAFE AND RELATIVELY WELL. HOWEVER, ONLY PROVISION OF FOOD TO THEM SINCE CAPTURE HAS BEEN THAT DELIVERED BY ARCHBISHOP POLANCO BRITO EARLY THIS MORNING. THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER DELIVERIES UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING. PAO HUTCHISON REPORTED A LACK OF WATER WHEN ELECTRICITY WAS TURNED OFF AND PUMP STOPPED. SHE ALSO REPORTED TO PRESS THAT TENSION KEPT MOST HOSTAGES FROM SLEEPING WELL LAST NIGHT. ONE OF THE DOMINICAN SECRETARIES IS REPORTED BY PRESS TO HAVE TOLD A FRIEND, PROBABLY BY TELEPHONE, THAT TENSION WAS SEVERE. SHE ECHOED TERRORISTS' REQUEST FOR DOCTOR BUT, LIKE TERRORISTS,
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FAILED TO SAY WHO WAS IN NEED OF ATTENTION. PAO HUTCHISON

HAD REPORTED TO AMBASSADOR THAT NO HOSTAGES HAD SUFFERED PHYSICAL HARM.

2. JUST AFTER NOON TODAY ONE OF THE HOSTAGES, A CHINESE BUSINESSMAN, ESCAPED FROM CONSULATE WHERE PAO HUTCHISON AND OTHERS ARE BEING HELD. PABLO CHAO (NAME GIVEN IN PRESS), WHO WAS TAKEN HOSTAGE WHILE APPLYING FOR VENEZUELAN VISA YESTERDAY, JUMPED FROM SECOND STORY BATHROOM OF CONSULATE INTO PATIO AND WAS TAKEN IMMEDIATELY TO HOSPITAL BY POLICE. INJURIES PROVED TO BE LIGHT; CHINESE AMBASSADOR TOLD US THEY INCLUDED CUTS AND CONTUSIONS BUT THAT CHAO COULD BE RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL IN AS LITTLE TIME AS TWO DAYS.

3. CHAO WAS UNABLE TO TALK VERY MUCH WHEN CHINESE AMBASSADOR VISITED HIM IN HOSPITAL THIS AFTERNOON. HOWEVER, CHAO TOLD HIM THAT THERE WERE NO INJURED IN ROOM WHERE HOSTAGES WERE HELD AND THAT THEY WERE IN CALM MENTAL STATE. HE SAID ALSO THAT THERE WERE 2 CAPTORS IN THE ROOM WITH THE HOSTAGES AT ALL TIMES AND THAT CAPTORS IN ROOM PERIODICALLY CHANGED PLACES WITH THOSE OUTSIDE.
HURWITCH

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